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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/633,876	08/07/2000	Sameh W. Asaad	YOR9-2000-0014	2927

21254 7590 02/04/2004
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EXAMINER

VO, TIM T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2112

12

DATE MAILED: 02/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/633,876

Applicant(s)

ASAAD ET AL.

Examiner

Tim T. Vo

Art Unit

2112

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 19-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16, 19-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

Part III DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

1. This application has been examined. Claims 1-16 and 19-26 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 1-6, 8-9 and 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ahern 6,088,752.

As for claims 1, 8 and 25-26, Ahern teaches a docking station for a mobile computer (see figure 5, docking station), comprising:

a dock housing coupled to a desktop display and including a primary bus (see figure 5, monitor 138, primary bus 10); and

an extended bridge comprising (see figure 1 and column 5 lines 35-37, wherein the bridge comprising 2 ASICs 56, 58, which placed in between the primary bus 10 and secondary bus 12), comprising:

a first side having an end connected to the primary bus of the docking housing (see figure 1 and column 5 lines 13-15, figure 1 disclosed a bridge splits in half, wherein the first half is connected to the primary bus 10 and the second half is connected to the secondary bus 12 locates in the docking station);

a second side having an end connected to a secondary bus for connecting to the mobile computer (see figure 5, wherein the first half of the bridge is connected to the primary bus 10 of the laptop); and

a device that implements a peripheral component interconnect (PCI)-to PCI communication (see figure 1 and column 5 lines 35-38, wherein the buses 10, 12 are PCI buses).

As for claim 2, Ahern teaches the extended bridge comprises a serial bridge, in which another end of the first side and another end of the second side are connected by a parallel connector (see figure 5 and column 4 lines 37-49, wherein the first half of the bridge is serial connection to the laptop and the second half of the bridge is a parallel connector for connecting various devices such as video card, CD-ROM drive, Add on card).

As for claims 3, 5, 6-7, 9, Ahern teaches the extended bridge comprising a converter for converting parallel bus data into a serial stream and back for the serial communication layer (see figure 1, encoder 26, 28, decoder 30, 32 and column 6 lines 61-62, wherein each one of the encoders and decoder converts information back and forth between the laptop and the docking station for communication).

As for claims 22-24, Ahern teaches a video adapter for display (see figure 5, video card for displaying information on monitor 138), docking station including a base and a base includes a peripheral device for storing an additional application and data for when the mobile computer is used in a desktop mode (see figure 5, docking station).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ahern in view of Lim (6,181,318).

As for claims 10, 13, Ahern teaches a docking station for a mobile computer (see figure 5, docking station), comprising:

a dock housing coupled to a desktop display and including a primary bus (see figure 5, monitor 138, primary bus 10); and

an extended bridge comprising (see figure 1 and column 5 lines 35-37, wherein the bridge comprising 2 ASICs 56, 58, which placed in between the primary bus 10 and secondary bus 12), comprising:

a first side having an end connected to the primary bus of the docking housing (see figure 1 and column 5 lines 13-15, figure 1 disclosed a bridge splits in half, wherein

the first half is connected to the primary bus 10 and the second half is connected to the secondary bus 12 located in the docking station);

a second side having an end connected to a secondary bus for connecting to the mobile computer (see figure 5, wherein the first half of the bridge is connected to the primary bus 10 of the laptop); and

a device that implements a peripheral component interconnect (PCI)-to PCI communication (see figure 1 and column 5 lines 35-38, wherein the buses 10, 12 are PCI buses).

Ahern does not expressly teach LCD panel. However, Lim teaches a LCD panel (see figure 1, LCD panel 60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the LCD panel of Lim to docking station of Ahern because the LCD panel provides high resolution thereby producing a clear vision for users (see column 6 lines 40-48 of Lim).

As for claim 11, Ahern teaches the first side of extended bridge is placed in the docking station and the second end is connected to the mobile computer (see figure 3, ASIC 58, 56, wherein the extended bridge splits into two ends as disclosed in figure 3, one end is connected to the docking station and the other end is connected to the portable computer).

As for claim 12, Ahern teaches secondary bus includes adaptors for peripheral components including at least one of a high-resolution graphics component and a disk drive (see figure 3, video card, and figure 5, discloses a CD-ROM drive).

4. Claims 14-15, 19 and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ahern in view of Lim (6,181,318).

As for claims 14-15, 19 and 22-24, Ahern and Lim do not expressly teach a docking station includes a docking sleeve for sliding mobile into the docking sleeve. However, Smith teaches a docking station includes a docking sleeve for sliding a notebook computer into the docking sleeve (see figure 1, docking station having a slot for accepting a notebook computer). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teaching of Smith to docking station of Ahern and Lim because the teaching of Smith provides universal docking station to be compatible with different types of portable computer from different vendors (see column 1 lines 8-10 and column 5 lines 1-18).

5. Claims 16 and 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ahern.

As for claim 16, Ahern does not expressly teach wherein the docking station selectively providing adjustable to accommodate a variety of different sized mobile computer. "Official Notice" is taken that both concept and the advantages for providing selective adjustable docking station to receive different sized mobile computer to Ahern's system are well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to include adjusting sizes of portable computers into the docking station to Ahern because docking station of Ahern would be universal to accommodate variety of different portable computers from different vendors.

6. As for claims 20-21, Ahern does not expressly teach wherein the docking station has a cooling fan. "Official Notice" is taken that both concept and the advantages for providing a cooling fan to Ahern's docking station are well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to install a cooling fan to Ahern because it would prevent the docking station from overheating and damage to electronic components.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tim T. Vo whose telephone number is 703-308-5862. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on 703-305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-2100.



Tim T. Vo
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2112

2/3/04